

Check the facts: **Allowing smoking in your business simply is not good business.**

—Smoking on the job increases absenteeism, property damage, and health and fire insurance costs, and lowers the productivity of non-smoking employees.—

“Passive Smoking: Health Effects and Workplace Resolutions,” by Philip Price, at the Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety, February, 1989, pp. 3-6.

—When an employee quits smoking, it can save an employer an estimated \$960 in excess illness costs each year.—

“Worksite smoking cessation: A meta-analysis of long term quit rates from controlled studies,” by K.J. Fisher, et.al., in *The Journal of Occupational Medicine*, 1993; b 32; 429-439.

For help in quitting, call 1-800-4-CANCER

Locally: _____

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Is Smoking Good for Business?

Estimated costs to employers for secondhand smoke (SHS) effects on non-smoking employees range from \$56 to \$490 per smoker annually.

(Kristein, M.M. “How Much Can Business Expect to Profit From Smoking Cessation?” *Preventive Medicine*, 1983; 12:358-381; Jackson & Holle, “Smoking: Perspectives 1985; Primary Care, 1985; 12:197-216)

Secondhand smoke (SHS) is by far the most dangerous air pollutant most Americans ever encounter. Workplace exposure to SHS causes more disease and death than workplace exposure to all other toxins combined.

(Environmental Protection Agency, Respiratory Health Effects of Passive Smoking: Lung Cancer and Other Disorders, [EPA/600/6-90/006F] 1993)

Non-smoking employees receive workers’ compensation, unemployment compensation, disability benefits, and other settlements based on their exposure to secondhand smoke.

“Summary of Legal Cases Regarding Smoking in the Workplace and Other Places,” by E.L. Sweda, from the Boston Tobacco Control Resource Center, December, 1997.

Tobacco smoke pollutes the air you breathe . . .

Arsenic, benzene, formaldehyde, and carbon monoxide are just four of more than 4,000 chemicals found in secondhand tobacco smoke. In fact, the Environmental Protection Agency classifies secondhand tobacco smoke as a class A carcinogen—a definite cancer-causing substance. Allowing people to smoke in your business simply is not good business.

The air in your business is the air you, your employees, and your

customers breathe. There is no safe level of secondhand smoke. Restaurant, bar, and casino workers involuntarily inhale enough secondhand smoke every day to suffer some of the same health effects observed in pack-a-day smokers. Employees exposed to secondhand smoke on the job are 34% more likely to develop lung cancer than the general population. Secondhand smoke levels in restaurants are 1.6-2.0 times higher than in office workplaces that don't have smoking restrictions; in bars, secondhand smoke levels are 4-6 times higher.

Even one-half hour of exposure to

secondhand smoke causes heart damage similar to that of regular smokers. Secondhand smoke causes the same diseases in non-smokers as in smokers: heart attacks, asthma attacks and other breathing problems (particularly in children), lung and other cancers. Non-smokers regularly exposed to secondhand smoke are 30 percent more likely to develop these diseases.

Don't waste your money with pricey ventilation systems. Even the most sophisticated

ventilation system cannot eliminate carcinogens and toxins from secondhand smoke. Ventilation systems are expensive and do not protect you, your employees, and your customers from secondhand smoke. Save your money. The only sure way to eliminate this dangerous pollutant is free—going smoke free.